

# MISHAWAKA

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News

## CIVIC QUESTIONS DEALT WITH BY MIX IN ADDRESS

### Democratic Candidate for Mayor Pledges His Ability to Aid the City in Making It Bigger and Better.

Over a thousand citizens of Mishawaka roundly cheered Melville W. Mix at the textile building Tuesday evening after the latter had enunciated his platform for the office of mayor in the coming city election.

Speaking as man to man, Mr. Mix pledged himself to render to the city of Mishawaka the best of his ability and skill if elected mayor. He spoke of the chaotic condition of Mishawaka at the time of his first election to the mayoralty and briefly outlined the campaign of city betterment that has been carried on during his and the succeeding democratic administration.

The impression made by the prominent citizen was remarkable. With no personal ambitions to be satisfied, no hope for glorification nor for pecuniary gain, the impression that he was a candidate solely out of a spirit of civic duty, was left with the large audience such as could not have been instilled by theatrical words or fanciful pledges.

Other speakers were Lieut. Gov. William P. O'Neill, J. Fred Bingham, City Clerk, J. L. Kennedy, City Treasurer, Joseph Ganser and G. B. Stevenson. Frank P. Christoph presided.

Many women attended the meeting. The third ward "All For Mix" club marched to the building behind the drum corps. The Women's company's hand program was given by Mr. Mix.

**Mix's Statement.**  
"I have been asked many times why I have responded to the importunities of my many Mishawaka friends, regardless of party affiliation, to again interest myself in the home governmental affairs.

"To give you an analysis of all of the reasons would consume much time; the principal reason—the one that may seem most improbable to many—is that at this particular time, I feel that I can be of considerable value to my home city in assisting to round out the conditions that have been occasioned through her rapid growth and the consequent demands for public service that always accompany such development.

"If I did not sincerely feel the need for careful and matured thought and action at this time, and have a confidence in my ability to perform an actual service for my home city at this time, I would not be before you tonight.

"Mishawaka has gone through a rapid and substantial development period since 1902. It has emerged from the swaddling clothes period, to that of a full grown city, with all of its consequent demands and ambitions.

**No Better City.**  
"This country may be searched from one end to the other, and a better city of 13,000 population would be hard to find; in fact, it is a frequent expression that 'Mishawaka is the biggest little city in the United States.'

"To many of you that may not mean much—to me it means a great deal, because that could not have been said ten years ago.

"When you honor me with your choice as chief executive, I found upon entering the office, about as chaotic a condition of affairs as could have existed without demoralization. Almost at once we were within the serious throes of an epidemic of smallpox which many of you will remember. The incidental causes of the summer were gradually multiplying, due to insanitary conditions, indifferent quarantine regulations, and other causes.

"When such conditions get beyond a certain point, they run away with things.

"Heroic measures had to be adopted when a realization was had of the results of these conditions. Vigorous and absolute quarantines were established in every case, and a general order of immediately ordered and enforced. It took nearly \$15,000 of the people's money to clear up this situation, which, if taken at the outset and dealt with as we now deal with such cases, could have cost comparatively nothing.

**Almost Isolated.**  
"Our city came very near to being isolated at a time when the annual output of one of our largest factories was being distributed—and an adverse city quarantine could have been fatal to every one's interest.

"There was much criticism and complaint at the time from many sources, but to those who realized the possibilities of the situation, it was considered an effective piece of work which was publicly commended on many occasions by the late M. V. Beiger.

"I mention this as a case where money must be spent that has not been provided for, and to what extent taking time by the forelock and maintaining clean streets and alleys, backyards and vacant lots may save demands on the public treasury.

"When I assumed the duties many of the records of the city were scattered all over town, and in a most hopeless condition; it took many months—even years—to get any idea at all of what had been done or what could be done.

"The treasurer's accounts were all in one basket; no record of department costs was available; money received from taxes, licenses, water works and electric light service, street improvements, etc., was placed on one sock, so to speak, and bills paid as long as it lasted. Some debts were postponed and money was personally advanced to meet other needs.

**Bonds Were Overdue.**  
"There were overdue bonds on the waterworks and electric light plant—also school house bonds which were then a liability of the city; a judgment of \$14,000 was pending against the city for its share of paying the intersections on Second st.

"The council was convening in

cramped, stuffy quarters over the boilers and pumps at the waterworks plant, and everybody was in a hurry to get through to get away from the confusion, and the doors were very low. The clerk carried his records back and forth and possessed no facilities for custody or filing, except what he would personally supply.

"There was a city engineer in name—he lived elsewhere, and had records only of the work he had handled. The previous engineer was also a non-resident with a circulating library of records, which were practically valueless.

"Only one sewer of any consequence had been constructed. There was no plan for extensions; no adequate system of grades, water mains, or other public service.

"The city street commissioner had his headquarters in his hat, as did the city marshal. The fire department was a volunteer department. The calaboose was a vile place, a house, even the most vicious criminal, entirely insanitary and inadequate.

**Good Comparison.**  
"I call your attention to these things that you may compare the present situation with the one which existed then—only a comparatively short time away.

"The problems were serious as demands were coming in for extended water mains and electric lights. One of the developments of that period has been attacked by citizens, whose sincerity in doing so I must challenge, for I do not believe there is a single taxpayer who would not agree with the plan then formulated and carried through—by means of which every dollar of equity in their property was added to the city, additional funds secured to the city, and the city's service, and the entire matter placed on a basis of deferred payments through a lease whereby the ultimate payments were extended over a period of 20 years.

"Through that arrangement, which was effected by conference and co-operation of 20 leading citizens of Mishawaka, regardless of political affiliation, with the city council, your city has enjoyed a widely extended water and electric service, a paid fire department with its Gamewell alarm system—an asset of great value to the city, and the city's credit has been insured because of the favorable insurance rates made possible by its presence—a city hall with headquarters for police and street departments, as well as all other city offices—with fireproof vault storage for all records of the city—its sanitary and safe calaboose or jail quarters for temporary detention of those under arrest.

**Were Made Possible.**  
"These advantages were made possible within a very short space of time, aside from funding overdue obligations, and restoring the city's credit.

"There can be no doubt in any one's mind that the following developments of the city, its marked progress towards the city's betterment—the development of the true Mishawaka spirit, were all the result of getting her affairs in better shape and relieving the situation of the cloud of hopelessness that was then prevalent.

"This was no matter of personal accomplishment; it was the result of co-operation of our citizens and a careful study of the conditions.

**Seek Improvements.**  
"At that time and almost continuously since, we have been endeavoring to complete the projected plans which called for pure water, the most valuable asset of any city.

"Thanks to the persistent effort of Mayor Herzog, and our present administration, this has been realized.

"This addition to our public service is of great value from many standpoints.

"Impure water is a curse to any city; it is a foe more dangerous than an armed barbarian in ambush, and I am more than proud of the fact that we can say that that question has been solved.

"It bears another important advantage that means actual dollars saving to every water taker and to the city.

"It is an actual dollars and cents benefit to everyone, and any man who knocks that proposition is hopelessly lost. He don't know what he is talking about and has no conception of what a city needs.

"Our work is only partly finished, however, if we wish to hold our head high amongst the up-to-date cities of the country.

**The Garbage Question.**  
"In the way of public service, with the pure water question out of the way, we must now organize a more modern method of collecting and disposing of the garbage. This subject needs the careful consideration of all the citizens for it is the basis of the health of our people and the beauty of our city.

"The present plan is a temporary expedient only; it needs organization, and so far as possible, to provide for such utilization of the garbage and by-products as may assist in making the plant a self-sustaining one. In many large cities, it is a source of profit. The collection work is the greatest study and in that, we must be guided by the reports of engineers, and the experience of other cities.

"This question also goes that of cleaning the streets and alleys.

"We now have sufficient miles of pavement to justify an efficient plan for cleaning and disposing of the refuse.

"There can be no gainsaying the need of a public library, that will be consistent with our size and progress. While we have something now, it by no means meets the public demand.

**Wants Public Library.**  
"I addressed a letter to a certain committee last April, outlining a plan whereby Mishawaka could enjoy the privilege of a substantial library at small cost, but nothing has been done about it so far as I know; yet it was an entirely feasible proposition, and one to which hearty co-operation would be accorded by all.

"We do not need to contemplate the construction of an expensive building at this time, but we can support a library service at a small cost, and I shall do my best to bring that about at the earliest possible date.

"The officials of a city have no more important function before them than to provide means for proper education, recreation and entertainment for its inhabitants.

"There is no meeting place in this city where the public may attend lectures, entertainments of education and travel, etc., and as in this case, where it entails no additional money, I believe we may well encourage our board of education to adopt the popular idea of making the school facilities available to more people and for more hours per year than at present.

**For Outdoor Play.**  
"We shall encourage the utilization of all park space for public recreation purposes, and provide proper methods of enjoying the great outdoors and the open air.

"I am heartily in accord with any plan of relief that will cut the cost of living. One of the most potent factors in the market question is the attitude of the people—Do they want a market? It seems to me to be a question of education and economic development that will work itself out once the service is made possible.

The government of a city involves many angles of consideration, not the least of which is the ability of its officials to make the most out of the available funds.

From Three Sources.

"Money is derived from three principal sources: Taxation, receipts from operating public service, and from licenses, franchises, etc.

"In 1906, I submitted a budget to the city council which called for a tax levy of \$1.23 on the \$100 of assessed valuation. The assessed valuation was a bit over \$4,400,000. It is now about \$5,500,000, and the levy is now about \$1.23 on the \$100 of assessed valuation. At that time there was a road tax of \$2 which has since been abolished. I believe I have only to call your attention to the growth of the city, the demand for increased service, to have you realize that you have been enjoying a most remarkable service at practically no additional cost.

"This year there were 136 fire hydrants; there are now 184. There were 106 street lights; there are now about 185.

"The people of Mishawaka require a high degree of fire protection—her interests are large—her industries are such an important factor in her progress and prosperity, that nothing can be done to protect the city's interests in any way reduce the high level of this service.

**Force Is Double.**  
"We now have 12 men in the service as against six men at the start, and two stations instead of one. The same may be said of the police service.

"Whatever profits may be made, in the public service are used by reinvestment in extending the service as demanded by the needs of the city. Money is borrowed or by increasing taxes to supply the demand for extensions to the service. We cannot eat our cake and keep it, and we cannot deny the need of protection and service. It is what makes our city.

"Economy must always be observed in civic administration, yet it must be understood that good service cannot be had without good—en, and good men require good wages.

"A large amount of money has been spent for permanent improvements, for additional equipment, out of the proceeds of the city and the city has the advantage of an increase in its asset account.

**Stand For Efficiency.**  
"I believe the right idea may be expressed in these words: 'The largest unit of service for the smallest amount of money.' That is efficient. That is what the democratic ticket stands for at this election, and you are to decide whether or not we can deliver the goods on that basis.

"The 'know-how' of our candidates must be your basis of consideration, and I do not hesitate to say that in my judgment a more earnest, conscientious, capable, hard-working set of men would be a great asset to the city than are on the democratic ticket in Mishawaka this year.

"While it is usual to divide local affairs along national political lines, it is necessary and primarily a matter of the selection of men.

"When equally good men are contesting for an office, there can certainly be no just criticism or complaint when political lines are observed.

**Big Piece of Bunk.**  
"To talk of partisanship, bossism, corruption, and all that sort of thing in a city like Mishawaka is one of the greatest pieces of bunk of which I can conceive.

"Wherein may be found the motives or the justification for such claims I will leave to you to make investigation.

"Insofar as partisanship may be chargeable to me, I would like to call your attention to the unsanitary conditions of the campaign headquarters, at which time was first organized our police and fire departments, and numerous other important undertakings were developed in behalf of the whole city.

"During my first administration, we appointed W. S. Moore as city engineer, and he occupied the position for seven years and is one of the best civil engineers in the state of Indiana. The selection was not a political one as you know.

"When the public utility question with us, of godless, selfish, and so far as possible, to provide for such utilization of the garbage and by-products as may assist in making the plant a self-sustaining one. In many large cities, it is a source of profit. The collection work is the greatest study and in that, we must be guided by the reports of engineers, and the experience of other cities.

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**For Outdoor Play.**  
"We shall encourage the utilization of all park space for public recreation purposes, and provide proper methods of enjoying the great outdoors and the open air.

"I am heartily in accord with any plan of relief that will cut the cost of living. One of the most potent factors in the market question is the attitude of the people—Do they want a market? It seems to me to be a question of education and economic development that will work itself out once the service is made possible.

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personally pass upon the matters put up for their consideration.

The new public service commission of the state practically controls all matters pertaining to the public service companies, and city officials have but a minor place in their administration.

"Some points have been raised by certain interests regarding the appointment of a city controller, and I want to say now as I have stated to others, I do not now know of any occasion for a controller in this city, and if selected as your mayor, I certainly should not appoint one, nor any other official that I believe we could get along without. No one can tell what the future may bring forth. Four years is a long time and if we make good on our slogan of 25,000 in 1915, or a year or two later, no one can now honestly say what may then be needed or what would be done under those circumstances."

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## Right Now is Stove Time

You've had a taste of stove weather; there's a lot more of it coming. If you're not properly equipped for it, we can do it for you quickly.

No matter how much or how little you wish to pay for a heating stove, you will find one here to answer your every requirement.

## Every Stove is Guaranteed to Give Satisfaction

Open Friday,  
Saturday and  
Monday Night

CREDIT  
TERMS

## ONLY ONE 200 SCORE BOWLED TUESDAY NIGHT

Martin of the Timing squad in the South Bend Watch factory league bowled the only double century score on the Elks' bowling alley Tuesday evening. Heaverly of the Regulars rolled steady Tuesday evening and bowled the best average, 181. The Regulars defeated the Greyhounds for three straight games. The Matadors in the Watch factory league were also best for three straight games by the Timing squad. The Crescents won by over 40 pins on the totals from the Rubber Re's.

The scores:

Timing	1	2	3	Total
Matadors	150	179	120	449
Wetzel	110	147	104	361
Peters	105	145	123	373
Wetzel	137	143	146	426
Martin	138	179	213	530
Handicap	141	141	141	423

Totals: 822 954 959 2735  
Matches: 1 2 3 Total  
Lefebvre 128 93 126 347  
Wetzel 118 142 130 390  
Johnson 39 157 135 331  
Hyde 107 111 127 345  
Handicap 229 229 229 687

Totals: 842 891 884 2617  
Regulars 1 2 3 Total  
Lefebvre 134 183 317  
Wetzel 118 142 130 390  
Johnson 39 157 135 331  
Hyde 107 111 127 345  
Handicap 229 229 229 687

Totals: 940 996 956 2892  
Greyhounds 1 2 3 Total  
Thibault 179 140 149 468  
Berrett 157 139 117 413  
Kamm 156 166 141 463  
Kleiser 153 165 140 458  
Schmidt 117 121 132 370  
Handicap 231 231 231 693

Totals: 955 966 801 2722  
Crescents 1 2 3 Total  
Kleiser 162 186 138 486  
Berrett 145 142 116 403  
Glen 106 140 127 373  
C. Roth 148 116 94 358  
Stueck 117 121 132